

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01

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R 171506Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3583

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: PINT EG

SUBJECT: CELEBRATION OF FITH ANNIVERSARY CORRECTIVE REVOLUTION

REF: 75 CAIRO 9657

1. GOE MADE MAJOR CELEBRATION THIS YEAR OF MAY 15, DATE CHOSEN  
ON WHICH TO CELEBRATE EVENTS OF FIRST 15 DAYS OF MAY 1971  
WHICH ENDED INTERREGNUM AND CONFIRMED SADAT AS NASSER'S SUCCESSOR.  
EVENT, UNTIL LAST SEPTEMBER KNOWN AS CORRECTIVE "MOVEMENT",  
WAS CELEBRATED AS NATIONAL FETE, THROUGH SADAT HIMSELF STAYED IN  
BOURG AL ARAB. PAPERS WERE FILLED WITH EDITORIALS LAUDING  
ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF "CORRECTIVE REVOLUTION," RULE OF THE LAW,  
NEW FREEDOMS, OCTOBER WAR "VICTORY," ESTABLISHMENT OF FULL  
DEMOCRATIC PRACTICES, AND BUILDING OF ECONOMY. SPECIAL SESSION  
OF PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY MET MAY 15 TO HEAR SHORT MESSAGE  
FROM SADAT (READ BY SPEAKER MAR'I) IN WHICH PRESIDENT  
STRESSED THAT DEMOCRATIC PRACTICES SHOULD BE GIVEN EVERY  
OPPORTUNITY TO SUCCEED SO THAT THE BUILDING OF DEMOCRACY AND  
THE NEW EGYPTIAN CITIZEN CAN TAKE PLACE. SADAT ADMITTED  
THAT COUNTRY FACES ECONOMIC CRISES AS RESULT FOUR WARS  
AND SAID DURING COMING YEARS "ECONOMIC BATTLE MUST BE  
WAGED IN THE SAME WAY AS THE MILITARY BATTLE." SADAT NOTED  
THAT THE CURRENT PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY WAS THE FIRST ASSEMBLY IN  
EGYPT'S HISTROY WHICH HAD COMPLETED ITS CONSTITUTIONAL TERM.

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3. ASSEMBLAGE WAS THEN ADDRESSED BY PRIME MINISTER, TWO DEPUTY SPEAKERS, FORMER SPEAKER AND OTHER NOTABLES ALL OF WHOM SINGLED OUT CERTAIN ASPECTS OF "CORRECTIVE REVOLUTION" FOR SPECIAL PRAISE. ON MORNING MAY 16 PRIME MINISTER SALIM DELIVERED A SPEECH MARKING "CORRECTIVE REVOLUTION" TO GROUP OF STUDENTS, AND ATHLETIC PRADES AND OTHER SPECIAL EVENTS WERE HELD THROUGHOUT CAIRO. LONG LIST OF NOTABLES CALLED AT ABDIN PALACE TO SIGN PRESIDENTIAL BOOK AND POLICE BANDS GAVE PERFORMANCES IN MAIN SQUARES OF CAIRO.

4. COMMENT: THE TERM "CORRECTIVE REVOLUTION" HAS GRADUALLY CREEPT INTO EGYPTIAN POLITICAL LEXICON SINCE PRESIDENT SADAT'S SPEECH ON SEPTEMBER 28, 1975 COMMEMORATING 5TH ANNIVERSARY OF NASSER'S DEATH. IN THAT SPEECH SADAT INDICATED NASSER HAD VIOLATED NATIONAL CHARTER SINCE OBJECTIVES OF 1952 REVOLUTION INSISTING ON RESTORATION OF POLITICAL FREEDOMS WERE NEVER IMPLEMENTED, DUE TO ABSENCE OF POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS AND EMERGENCE OF CENTERS OF POWER. THUS, SADAT SAID, 1971 "CORRECTIVE MOVEMENT" WAS ACTUALLY "NEW REVOLUTION" A UNIQUE EXPERIENCE WHICH HAS RESTORED THE IDEALS OF 1952 REVOLUTION.

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